

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows. On page 1, immediately after the title of the invention and before paragraph [001], please insert the following new paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of serial number 09/727,102 filed November 28, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 09/490,319 filed January 24, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 09/476,159 filed December 30, 1999, which are assigned to the same Assignee as the present application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 6-31 without prejudice. Please add new claims 36-40. The following listing of claims reflects the correct listing of claims in the application.

1. (Original) An embolic protection device for capturing embolic debris released into a body vessel of a patient, comprising:
  - a shaft member having a distal and a proximal end; and
  - a filtering assembly rotatably mounted on the shaft member near the distal end thereof, the filtering assembly including an expandable strut assembly and a filter attached to the strut assembly for capturing embolic debris, the filtering assembly being mounted on an outer tubular member which is coaxially disposed over an inner tubular

member having a length shorter than the outer tubular member, wherein one end of the inner tubular member is adapted to abut against the stop fitting located on the shaft member for limiting axial movement of the filtering assembly along the guide wire.

2. (Original) The embolic protection device of claim 1, wherein:  
the shaft member is a guide wire and includes a distal spring tip coil, the spring tip coil serving as the stop fitting which abuts against the inner tubular member.
3. (Original) The embolic protection device of claim 2, wherein:  
the guide wire includes a second stop fitting in an abutting relationship with the proximal ends of the outer and inner tubular members.
4. (Original) The embolic protection device of claim 2, wherein:  
the outer tubular member extends over a portion of the spring tip coil of the guide wire.
5. (Original) The embolic protection device of claim 2, wherein:  
the outer and inner tubular members are made from polyimide.

Claims 6 – 31. (Canceled).

32. An embolic protection device for capturing embolic debris released into the body vessel of a patient, comprising:

a shaft member having a distal end and a proximal end;

a filtering element mounted on the shaft member near the distal end thereof, the filtering element including an expandable strut assembly and a filter attached to the strut assembly for capturing embolic debris, and

a layer of polymeric material having a coefficient of friction less than the coefficient of friction of the material of the strut assembly deposited on at least part of the strut assembly proximal to the filter.

33. The embolic protection device of claim 32, wherein:

the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of PTFE, polyimide, and heparin.

34. The embolic protection device of claim 32, wherein:

the entire strut assembly is coated with the polymeric material.

35. The embolic protection device of claim 34, wherein:

the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of PTFE, polyimide, and heparin.

Please add new claims 36 - 40 as follows:

36. (New) An embolic protection device for capturing embolic debris released into the body vessel of a patient, comprising:

a shaft member having a distal end and a proximal end;

a filtering element mounted on the shaft member near the distal end thereof, the filtering element including an expandable strut assembly and a filter attached to the strut assembly for capturing embolic debris, the expandable strut assembly being movable between an expanded position and an unexpanded position and having regions which experience high strain and regions which experience low strain during movement between the unexpanded position and the expanded position; and

a layer of polymeric material deposited on the regions which experience low strain, the layer of polymeric material having a coefficient of friction less than the coefficient of friction of the material forming the strut assembly.

37. (New) The embolic protection device of claim 36, wherein the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of PTFE and polyimide.

38. (Amended) An embolic protection device for capturing embolic debris released into the body vessel of a patient, comprising:

a shaft member having a distal end and a proximal end;

a filtering element mounted on the shaft member near the distal end thereof, the filtering element including an expandable strut assembly and a filter attached to the strut assembly for capturing embolic debris, and

a coating made from a substance having a coefficient of friction less than the coefficient of friction of the material forming the strut assembly selectively deposited on portions of the strut assembly proximal to the filter.

39. (New) The embolic protection device of claim 38, wherein the coating substance is a hydrophilic substance.

40. (New) The embolic protection device of claim 38, wherein the coating substance is heparin.